

Springerville Town Council  
Meeting  
May 6, 2009  
6:00 p.m.

Present: Mary Nedrow, Mayor, Eric Baca Vice Mayor, Bill Lucas and Ron Thebeau

Excused: Phelps Wilkins

Staff: Val Cordova Town Clerk and Tim Shaffery Legal Counsel

Public: Gail Sadler (Census 2010), Kevin Burk, Jeff McCue, Jim Muth and Jennifer Prochnow Chamber Director.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Nedrow with a quorum present.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Nedrow.
3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None
4. Manager, Council and Chamber Reports:

Jennifer Prochnow gave an update for the Chamber reporting that the visitor's count remained at 500 this month. The Chrome in the Dome was a success with 70 entries and 800 spectators. She's been told there may be construction in the dome again next June and may be looking at making April the permanent date. She'll be attending a Grand Impressions workshop that allows us to keep the blue tourist information signs.

She reported that she's had a lot of inquiries for the RV Round Up but not a lot of sign ups for events. She is writing a grant for the Office of Tourism. The grant used to be called Team and now called ARM and asked the council for a letter of support. She is writing to cover some expenses for next year's RV Round Up and to attend the Game & Fish Outdoor Expo and create a video or photo loop to take to shows to showcase our area and add to the Chamber website and ways to increase hits from Google.

Councilman Lucas reported on Monday's planning and zoning meeting. A fence and a dog issue on C Street were resolved. A special sign permit for Safeway's Grand Reopening was permitted, a CUP was issued to a mobile food cart and initial discussions on the Master Plan were started.

5. Consent Agenda.
  - a. Consider approval of the April 15, 09 town council meeting minutes. .
  - b. Consider approval of the April 2, Joint Council meeting minutes.

Bill Lucas/Ron Thebeau motion to approve consent items 5a-5b.

Vote:	Ayes	Mary Nedrow Eric Baca Bill Lucas Ron Thebeau
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6. Old Business: None
7. US. Census 2010 Partnership:

Ms. Gail Sadler of the US Census gave a Power Point presentation on the coming 2010 Census. She reported that approximately 100 people in Apache County have been hired to do the mapping. Ms. Sadler explained that the Census is a census of residents and not citizenship. The census is mandated to redistrict and establish fair representation for the people living here. Through this representation services are funded. She advised the Council that Arizona stands to gain two seats in the House of Representatives based on the new population estimates but we have to count everyone living here.

There is over three hundred billion dollars in funding distributed every year. The funding goes toward Title 1 grants, schools, Head Start programs, WIC, Senior Citizens programs like Meals on Wheels, Emergency Food and Shelter, unemployment, CDBG, Revenue Sharing in the State and rehab. For every person missed in the 2000 Census cost the Town between \$600 –\$800. In 2007 it was established that Arizona per capita was receiving between \$1200– \$1300 per person.

Ms. Sadler reported that the Census forms have changed and ask ten questions, none of which are personal. She reiterated that the Census isn't asking for citizenship just residency emphasizing that the Census is confidential and not shared with anyone. She said the Census 2010 wants to enlist the support of the Town by formalizing a partnership with them by establishing a Complete Count Committee to reach those people who are at risk of not being counted. Ms. Sadler emphasized you don't have to be a citizen of the U.S. to be counted. If a person lives here they need to be counted. She advised the council that Springerville only had a 51% response in returning the 2000 Census forms and emphasized the importance of establishing a Complete Count Committee to reach those residents at risk of not being counted. She reported that historians and people doing genealogy research are excited about the 1940 Census being released next spring by the National Archives after 72 years.

8. ADOT Aeronautics Matching Grant for AIP-17: Discussion and action regarding the approval of ADOT Aeronautics grant.

Mayor Nedrow announced that that this item needed to be tabled tonight.

Bill Lucas/Ron Thebeau motion to table item 8 for a future meeting.

Vote:	Ayes	Mary Nedrow
		Eric Baca
		Bill Lucas
		Ron Thebeau

9. Reopening Tumbling T. Drive: Discussion regarding the reopening of Tumbling T. Drive.

Jim Muth addressed the council regarding reopening of Tumbling T Drive. He explained that he has personal issues with the Town putting a gate across a public thoroughfare and would like to see the gate removed. Mr. Muth noted there were some issues when the road was first closed that in his opinion were secondary but influenced the council's decision to close Tumbling T. At their request a gate was put up because there was a dust issue which was resolved however the road is now paved. Mr. Muth again stated Tumbling T is a public road and he respectfully requested that the council revisit the closure and remove the gate. He noted that this road sets precedence and he could encourage other residents to come in and request that their road be closed. He said it's difficult to understand why the Town would build a gate across the street, take tax payer dollars to chip seal, put signage and not remove the gate. He said he would like to know if the Council is prepared to have the gate removed.

Councilman Thebeau said it was worth looking at but they should look at it from everyone's consideration.

Jeff McCue addressed the council stating that he lives on Tumbling T. He said that opening Tumbling T creates a highway because people want it open for a thru road and this is a residential area. He said he has seen cars going driving 70 mph and almost have an accident going around the S curve and it's worse when drunk people leave the bar. He reiterated that speeders are a real issue on Tumbling T and asked why people can't use Hwy 180 or Hwy 60 instead of using Tumbling T as a short cut.

Councilman Thebeau noted that a comparison is Chiricahua. It's a heavily used street and offers about the same short cut distance between two highways of like proportion and volume to Tumbling T. Tumbling T would be a thoroughfare and an artery between two highways and a viable shortcut, but suggested that they have to be consistent with watching for speeders if it was reopened.

Councilman Lucas's concern is that if Tumbling T is a public thoroughfare then it should be a "public thoroughfare". He appreciates the fact that there is history as to why things occurred however that was then and this is now. He did however agree that law enforcement should be more diligent. He thought maybe speed bumps could be a consideration to slow the traffic, but reiterated that a public thoroughfare should be open and not locked.

Mayor Nedrow noted that this council was not present when they closed the road 7 years ago and suggested that the council have all information on why they closed in the first place before making any decisions.

The Town's Legal Counsel agreed that the council members should have the past history prior to making any decisions and suggested having a public hearing place on a regular agenda and let people express their feeling regarding reopening Tumbling T.

Mr. McCue asked why reopen the road when it's been closed for such a long time noting that it's been peaceful not having cars driving at 70 mph especially after the bars close at 2:00 in the morning.

Councilman Baca agreed with having a public hearing and said he would like to review all the history.

Councilman Thebeau asked if they could write some kind of language so as not to revisit this issue again and again.

Mr. Shaffery advised him that he can't write a resolution stating a council is forever prohibited from visiting this issue. It is the right of every new administration to revisit any issue. He advised the council that staff would need time to compile the history before bringing it back for a public hearing.

10. Adjournment:

Ron Thebeau/Bill Lucas motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Vote:	Ayes	Mary Nedrow
		Eric Baca
		Bill Lucas
		Ron Thebeau

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Mary Nedrow, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Town Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Springerville Town Council in regular session on Wednesday May 6, 2009. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup>, day of May 2009

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Town Clerk